

Education Scotland Strategic Priorities 2013-16: Consultation

October 2012

Thank you for taking time to engage with Education Scotland's corporate planning process. We can only improve educational outcomes for children and adults in Scotland through strong partnerships, and so as one of our partners it is important that your voice is heard.

As our new agency moves forward, we need to agree with partners the priorities which will have most impact on learners. This will involve Education Scotland thinking about what we are doing that already works well, what might be done differently, what new things we might start doing and what we could stop doing.

Drawing on feedback from partners, Education Scotland's corporate plan will set out a vision for where we would like Scottish education to be in three years' time. We want to ensure that the plan genuinely represents the national aspirations of all our partners.

Please answer the questions below, either in collaboration with colleagues, or as an individual. Please also ensure that you have the Reference Sheet, which you can find on the [Education Scotland online service](#), as it contains information that you need to complete this exercise.

Your feedback may not cover all of our areas of work but we would welcome any thoughts on how you believe we should focus our efforts in the years ahead.

You can submit your feedback on this document or online [here](#).

If you are using this document to send us your feedback, please email it to:
research@educationscotland.gov.uk

Please also use this email address if you have any questions or require any more information.

The deadline for responses is 16th November.

How we will handle your response

Your comments will inform the final version of the Education Scotland corporate plan. We will not share your response publicly. We will publish a collated summary of all responses received. We will share your responses internally and with Scottish Government colleagues. We may also wish to contact you again in the future to discuss the development of our corporate plan; however we require your permission to do this.

Do you agree to Education Scotland contacting you again in future to discuss the development of our corporate plan?	Yes	No
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Double click on the appropriate box above to select an option.

ABOUT YOU

1. Your details

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ABOUT YOUR ORGANISATION

2. What type of organisation do you work for (if applicable)? Double click on the appropriate box below to select an option.

Organisation type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Organisation type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Early years centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adult education	<input type="checkbox"/>
Primary School	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community based education	<input type="checkbox"/>
Primary School (independent)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Teacher Education Institute	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secondary School	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secondary School (independent)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scottish Government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special School	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public body/national organisation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FE College	<input type="checkbox"/>	Offender learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
University	<input type="checkbox"/>	Voluntary organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Employer	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am a learner	<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a parent/carer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please specify:	

ABOUT YOUR RESPONSE

3. This response is...

...from an individual

...on behalf of my organisation

Double click on the appropriate box above to select an option.

NATIONAL OUTCOMES

To answer these questions please refer to the **National Outcomes** on the **Reference Sheet**. First choose **2 or 3** National Outcomes to focus on, and then consider the following questions in relation to your chosen Outcomes.

4. Imagine that your chosen National Outcomes have been achieved. What would be different? What would we notice had changed? E.g. all children now have good literacy skills. Record your response below and please ensure you add the number of the Outcome(s) you are focusing on e.g. NO3.

National Outcome Number	Response
NO3	Teachers will themselves be at the forefront of exemplifying this national outcome and will provide the best opportunities possible for learners to fulfil their potential.
NO4	All pupils, no matter what their ultimate level of attainment and achievement, will have succeeded in developing the capacities of CfE to the best level they can.
NO5	All children, no matter what their background or circumstances, will be well placed to make the most out of the educational opportunities provided by the Scottish education system.

5. Now think about what areas of Education Scotland's work we would need to prioritise to help make the changes you have discussed above. What areas of our work would have most impact on making these changes? E.g. focusing on the achievement gap. Record your response below and please ensure you add the number of the Outcome(s) you are focusing on e.g. NO3.

National Outcome Number	Response
NO5	In relation to this National Outcome, Education Scotland needs to prioritise identifying the contribution education can make to this very significant objective. This specific education contribution has to be seen as one part of the coordinated strategy encompassing all the agencies involved in GIRFEC – and Education Scotland then has to do its part to support the Scottish education system in delivering effectively its contribution, in concert with the other players involved.
NOs 2 and	In what are clearly becoming ever more financially straitened times Education

3	Scotland has to identify, support and deliver effective and efficient career-long professional learning for teachers.

EDUCATION SCOTLAND OBJECTIVES

To answer these questions please refer to the **Education Scotland Strategy Map** on the **Reference Sheet** which contains our organisational objectives. First choose **2 or 3** of Education Scotland's objectives that you would like to focus on. Then consider the following questions in relation to your chosen objectives.

6. What is Education Scotland already doing to achieve these objectives? Record your response below and please ensure you add the number of the objective(s) you are focusing on e.g. Objective 3.

Objective Number	Response
Obj3	The development of high quality and user friendly support materials, whether in paper or electronic form is a clear priority for Education Scotland.
Obj2	Support from Education Scotland for approaches to career-long professional learning which are premised on teacher autonomy, agency and the development of self-efficacy are to be welcomed. An example of this would be Education Scotland's support for the development of practitioner enquiry approaches to professional learning.

7. What should Education Scotland start doing to achieve these objectives and why? Record your response below and please ensure you add the number of the objective(s) you are focusing on e.g. Objective 3.

Objective Number	Response
Obj3	While online resources are clearly of enormous use to busy teachers, there needs to be a careful consideration of the usability of sites which host such materials. Ease of access and ease of use are vital if users are to be able to manage their time effectively and make the best use of such materials. Being overwhelmed by the complexity of a website is not a positive way to support its use.
Obj2	Education Scotland must vigorously support and argue for the model of the teacher identified above. Teacher professionalism, particularly activist teacher professionalism, should be central to the advice given and the policies developed by Education Scotland.

8. What should Education Scotland stop doing to achieve these objectives and why? Record your response below and please ensure you add the number of the objective(s) you are focusing on e.g. Objective 3.

Objective Number	Response
Obj3	Having a website which is so all encompassing with so many possibilities is a two edged sword. It is great to have such a range of materials but, as noted above, if users are just overwhelmed and not sure how to negotiate the plethora of ideas then it can be off putting.
Obj2	Education Scotland has already taken steps to move in this area so it is not perhaps a matter of stopping, but there should be further encouragement and support for the approach of working <u>with</u> people and organisations in partnership to facilitate improvement.

9. Implementing our priorities is complex. We will only transform young people's and adults' lives through learning if we work in effective partnerships based on mutual respect and understanding of roles. Taking this into account, how could you/your organisation work more effectively in partnership with Education Scotland to help us achieve our organisational objectives?

Response
The GTCS remains fully committed to working with Education Scotland in the ways already identified and in place. The spirit of mutual trust which has been built up since the advent of Education Scotland is very gratifying. The GTCS remains fully open to moving forward in partnership and encompassing new innovative approaches as they develop.